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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

DODD et alAtty. Ref.: **899-26**Serial No. **Unknown**

Group:

National Phase of: **PCT/GB00/00363**International Filing Date: **7 February 2000**Filed: **August 7, 2001**

Examiner:

For: **HEAT TRANSFER ELEMENT**

* * * * *

August 7, 2001Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS (AS ON AMENDED SHEETS)

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

A1 4. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, which further comprises metal fibres interspersed therein.

6. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in which the polymer matrix further includes particles of metal dispersed therein.

A2 7. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in which the glass fibres comprise chemically resistant glass fibres.

8. (Amended) A heat transfer element according to claim 1, in which the glass fibres are mixed with fibres of a plastics material.